

City of Odessa to Receive \$1.1 Million in Weatherization Funds

THE CITY OF ODESSA HAS BEEN AWARDED 1.1 MILLION FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (TDHCA), UNDER THE AMERICAN RECONSTRUCTION AND RECOVERY ACT (ARRA) TO HELP LOW-INCOME FAMILIES MAKE ENERGY-SAVING HOME IMPROVEMENTS. THIS IS THE A PART OF THE LARGEST ENERGY EFFICIENCY MOVEMENT IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO BE THE MANAGER AND DISTRIBUTOR OF THE WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP) FUNDS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS. THE GOAL IS TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN 60,000 TEXAS HOMES DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

THE WAP IS DESIGNED TO HELP LOW-INCOME FAMILIES CONTROL THEIR ENERGY COSTS THROUGH THE INSTALLATION OF WEATHERIZATION MATERIALS AND CONSUMER EDUCATION. HOUSEHOLDS THAT QUALIFY WILL RECEIVE AN ENERGY AUDIT OF THEIR HOME (A REVIEW OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF THE RESIDENCE, TO IDENTIFY WHERE AIR LEAKS MAY BE OCCURRING, INEFFICIENT APPLIANCES, ETC). IF THE STRUCTURE WILL BENEFIT FROM BEING WEATHERIZED, MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO INCREASE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF THE HOME. THE WEATHERIZATION WORK INCLUDES CAULKING; WEATHER-STRIPPING; ADDING CEILING, WALL, AND FLOOR INSULATION; PATCHING HOLES IN THE BUILDING ENVELOPE; DUCT WORK, AND TUNE-UP, REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF ENERGY INEFFICIENT HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEMS. THE FINAL PRODUCT MUST MEET SPECIFIC ENERGY SAVINGS GOALS. NATIONALLY, THE AVERAGE ESTIMATED UTILITY COST SAVINGS PER WEATHERIZED HOUSEHOLD IS \$413 ANNUALLY.

HOUSEHOLDS QUALIFY IF THEIR ANNUAL INCOME DOES NOT EXCEED 200% OF POVERTY LEVEL. PRIORITY WILL ALSO BE GIVEN TO ELDERLY, DISABLED AND FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD CALL THE CITY OF ODESSA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AT 432-335-4820 TO PLACE YOUR NAME ON A LIST THAT WILL PRE-QUALIFY INDIVIDUALS FOR THE PROGRAM. THERE WILL BE AN APPLICATION PROCESS AND INDIVIDUALS WILL NEED TO PROVIDE THE OFFICE WITH ALL DOCUMENTS IN ORDER TO VERIFY INCOME. FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

[HTTP://APPS1.EERE.ENERGY.GOV/WEATHERIZATION/](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/weatherization/)

[HTTP://WWW.TDHCA.STATE.TX.US/RECOVERY/DETAIL-WAP.HTM](http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/recovery/detail-wap.htm)